

# ROXBY DOWNS AREA SCHOOL

## CONTEXT STATEMENT



School Name: **ROXBY DOWNS AREA SCHOOL**  
 School Number: 1817  
 DE Partnership: Far North  
 Principal: Mrs Annette Williams  
 Address: 7 Richardson Place, RD, SA, 5725  
 Phone: 86710011  
 Website: [www.rdas.sa.edu.au](http://www.rdas.sa.edu.au)

### ROXBY DOWNS

Roxby Downs is an oasis in the desert; a clean, green, eminently liveable modern town in remote of South Australia. The town is a service centre to BHP’s Olympic Dam operations and provides many modern facilities including two schools, a multitude of sporting clubs, a shopping precinct, swimming pool and splash pad, two gyms, a library, a cinema, a cafe, a pub, a Community Club and a myriad of eateries and takeaway options.

Roxby Downs is located 560 kilometres north of Adelaide with daily 1hr flights from Olympic Dam airport. The region has a desert climate with winter lows in the high teens and summer highs in the low 40s. The average temperature is 20.5 degrees. The town is ideal for young families, with a population of around 4000 and a median age of 30 years old.

There are plenty of recreational opportunities, including camping under the stars, attending events like the Roxby Races, seeing desert wildflowers (including Sturt Desert Peas in full-bloom) and exploring Outback towns like William Creek and Oodnadatta.

Roxby Downs Area School opened in 1987.



Roxby Downs Area School is proudly situated on the lands of the Kokatha people.

Our ancestors met in this space to gather resources, nourish their bodies, minds, and spirits so they could continue their journey, their story. Their footprints remain on this land.

By entering this space, you walk alongside us to keep our traditions, stories, and our nation’s history alive whilst you leave footprints on this land and in our hearts.



| 2024 ENROLMENTS |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Foundation      | 29         |
| Year 1          | 38         |
| Year 2          | 34         |
| Year 3          | 37         |
| Year 4          | 40         |
| Year 5          | 31         |
| Year 6          | 38         |
| Year 7          | 42         |
| Year 8          | 42         |
| Year 9          | 55         |
| Year 10         | 43         |
| Year 11         | 40         |
| Year 12         | 30         |
| Year 12 plus    | 0          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>499</b> |



## 2024 STAFF LIST

| NAME                | POSITION                                    |
|---------------------|---|
| Annette Williams    | Principal                                   |
| Tara Stewart        | Deputy Principal                            |
|                     | Assistant Principal 7-12                    |
| Jess Waters         | Assistant Principal F-6                     |
| Ruth Clothier       | Assistant Principal Wellbeing and Inclusion |
| Steph Richter       | Early Years Leader                          |
| Ellie Bennie        | Primary Years Leader                        |
| Amanda Kellett      | Senior Years Leader                         |
| Nardene Montgomerie | Middle Years Leader                         |
| Dianna Woodward     | Wellbeing Leader Primary                    |
| Kylie McHugh        | Aboriginal Education Leader Primary         |
| Amber Archdale      | Aboriginal Education Leader Secondary       |
| Meg Renshaw         | Wellbeing Leader Secondary                  |
| Darcy Maney         | Early Years Teacher                         |
| Jordan Wiesman      | Early Years Teacher                         |
| Chloe French        | Early Years Teacher                         |
| Ally Christall      | Early Years Teacher                         |
| Brooke Carter       | Early Years Teacher                         |
| Sammie Norris       | Primary Teacher                             |
| Kylie McHugh        | Primary Teacher                             |
| Lachlan Bates       | Primary Teacher                             |
| Jake Giammatteo     | Primary Teacher                             |
| Emily Butler        | Primary Teacher                             |
| Emma Whittlesea     | Primary Teacher                             |
| Stuart Ingram       | Primary Teacher                             |
| Naomi Bowley        | Primary Health and PE Teacher               |
| Caitlin O'Brien     | Performing Arts Teachers                    |
| Mel Sharp           | Learning Hub Teacher                        |
| Mel Emery           | Learning Hub Teacher                        |
| Anna Kanakaris      | Language Teacher                            |
| Zac Ingles          | Secondary Teacher                           |
| Stephen Butler      | Secondary Teacher                           |
| Britt Hall          | Secondary Teacher                           |
| Dave Roe Simons     | Secondary Teacher                           |
| Alecia Raper        | Secondary Teacher                           |
| Anna Coates         | Secondary Teacher                           |
| Josh Biermann       | Secondary Teacher                           |
| Lauren Olds         | Secondary Teacher                           |
| Berlinda Carroll    | Secondary Teacher                           |
| Kelsey Hampel       | Secondary Teacher                           |
| Anjolina Lemos      | Secondary Teacher                           |
| James Fazzalari     | Secondary Teacher                           |



| ANCILLARY STAFF –<br>EDUCATORS               | ROLE                                    |
|--|---|
| Belinda Thompson                             | Business Manager                        |
| Bev McKenna<br>(Monday – Thursday)           | SSO Admin                               |
| Kate Ali                                     | SSO Admin                               |
| Jessica Mengersen<br>Taelia Hewetson         | SSO Admin                               |
| Kim McGrath<br>(Tuesday / Thursday / Friday) | PA to the Principal & Office Manager    |
| Glenn Simmons                                | Leader of Operations and Infrastructure |
| ICT –Ben Costi                               | ICT Support                             |
| Ruby Turner                                  | Library Assistant                       |
| Aleida Slok                                  | Curriculum Support                      |
| Marcus Martin                                | Curriculum Support                      |
| Kristen Dwyer                                | Curriculum Support/ Uniform             |
| Kelly Brougham                               | Curriculum Support                      |
| Gail Darling Sunners                         | Curriculum Support                      |
| Angela Middleton                             | Curriculum Support                      |
| Kayla Allan                                  | Curriculum Support                      |
| Tori Stirrat                                 | Curriculum Support                      |
| Deanne Clayton                               | Student and Family Engagement Officer   |
| Ross Calyun                                  | Aboriginal Community Education Officer  |
| Dave Williams                                | Grounds and Maintenance                 |
| Lizzie Bancroft                              | Canteen Manager                         |
| TBC  | Canteen Assistant                       |
|  |   |



## Students (and their welfare)

Roxby Downs is a transient community with large numbers of children and young people. The community is characterised by its youth (average age 29), high disposable income and job opportunities.

Students come from a variety of backgrounds – Industrial (mining), Agricultural (farming), city (urban) and city (industrial), resulting in a transient population. Some are committed residents who call Roxby Downs home, and some have only short-term job placements. Others see the town as a providing them with economic solutions in return for a relatively short term of residence. Some are challenged by the high transience of the town, having to establish themselves in a new community with few or no extended families and acquaintances.

The community is young and vibrant. Sports are popular within the community and provide the opportunity to develop personal/team skills and competition for those interested. The school actively encourages students to participate in school and after hours sporting activities (some run by teachers).

## Vision Statement

# Empowering all to reach their **Potential**

Our current priorities focus on improvements in:

- Numeracy
- Literacy
- Wellness and Inclusion.
- Career Development Pathways.

## Curriculum

A full outline of learning offered at RDAS is available on the school website:

[www.rdas.sa.edu.au](http://www.rdas.sa.edu.au)

Our preferred method of curriculum delivery is within a community of learners on site. For those requiring a personalised approach to learning some subjects can be accessed through an online platform to be negotiated.

RDAS has a strong career development pathway including vital industry connections. Further information is located on the school website.

The school Learning Hub requires personalised learning for those requiring a special class placement.



## Sporting Activities

Sporting activities have a major focus within the community. Excellent opportunities for sports are provided through joint use of a world class community recreation facility including a gym, swimming pool, squash courts, 2 stadiums, basketball, netball and tennis courts which are accessible to the school. School 'House' sports carnivals include swimming and athletics. Extensive interschool sports competitions are available through district/regional organisation (SAPSASA - South Australian Primary Schools Amateur Sporting Association, SASSSA – South Australian Secondary Schools Sporting Association, and WASSAC – Western Areas Secondary Schools Athletic Carnival) The school's P.E. curriculum involves students in a wide range of sports options and Daily Fitness.

## Other Co-Curricular Activities

### General:

A variety of activities are offered for school age students including: camps/excursions, work experience, choir and arts performances.

## Staff (and their welfare)

### Staff profile:

As above.

### Leadership structure:

Principal,

Deputy Principal

Assistant Principals

- Secondary Learning
- Primary Learning
- Wellbeing and Inclusion. (R-6, 7-12, Student Services cohorts).

B1 Leaders:

- Early Years
- Primary Years
- Middle Years
- Secondary Years
- Aboriginal Learners
- Wellbeing and Inclusion



# School Facilities

## Buildings and grounds:

The majority of school buildings have been refurbished in the last 3 years to reflect the contemporary learning within.

## Cooling:

All buildings are air-conditioned.

## Student facilities:

A School Canteen is operating run by our Governing Council operates for lunch orders and over the counter sales Tuesday to Friday.

# School Operations

## School financial position:

The school's financial position is sound.

# Local Community

## General characteristics:

The Roxby Downs community is characterised by its youth (average age 29), the distinction of having the highest birth rate in the state, high incomes and job opportunities.

The opal mining town of Andamooka is 35 kms away. Andamooka secondary students travel by DE provided bus to attend Roxby Downs Area School.

## Parent and community involvement:

Parental support and participation is strongly encouraged however participation is limited. The demands of shift-work and jobs have a large impact on community and school support. An exception is an active and committed Governing Council.

## Feeder schools:

Andamooka Primary School - 35 km.

St Barb's Catholic School, Roxby Downs for secondary school.

## Services Industry includes:

A Local Hospital, 2 Medical Practices, a range of visiting specialists and allied health workers, a dentist, Community Health services through the hospital.

## Accessibility:

Roxby Downs is 560 kms north of Adelaide. Nearest major centre, Pt Augusta, 276 kms south. Excellent roads service the area.

## Local Government body:

Roxby Downs Municipal Council.